



"And now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world..." (John 17:11).

Use this recent news story to help your students see the relevance
of this week's lesson from the Standard Lesson Commentary®
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VULNERABLE TO TEMPTATION AND SIN

Donald Trump faced a difficult situation last week as a recording of a crude conversation from eleven years ago was made public. Just as numerous presidents and presidential candidates before him have done, Trump has demonstrated his vulnerability to sin. In Sunday night's debate, he acknowledged his error, but called attention to similar behavior on the part of his opponent's husband, Bill Clinton.

VULNERABLE TO TEMPTATION BUT NOT TO SIN

For those who subscribe to America's civil religion, the president is the "great high priest." They want to think the president is better, more noble than the rest of us. But as history has proved time and again, all leaders have feet of clay. Jesus, the true great high priest, is different than every one of us. Although he was tempted in every way we are, he faced each temptation without succumbing to sin.

1. When faced with a choice between two or more flawed candidates, how does a Christian decide whom to vote for?
2. In such a situation, is declining to vote a valid option? Why or why not?
3. It has been said that we get the leaders we deserve. How do you respond to that statement?
4. Since all of us have had our crude moments, are we being hypocritical if we condemn the sins of our leaders? Explain.
5. What can common citizens do to change the current situation? How does the biblical command to pray for our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1, 2) speak to this question?

—Charles R. Boatman

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